

1 Game Tree evaluation

In class we saw a randomized algorithm for game tree evaluation in complete binary trees with n leaves where players alternate moves, that evaluated $O(n^{0.793})$ leaves in expectation. We considered the case where leaves have value 0 or 1 indicating whether the first player wins or loses. More generally, we can have arbitrary values in the leaves and player 1 tries to maximize the value while player 2 tries to minimize it.

- Show that any deterministic algorithm must query the values at all leaves by expanding on the proof sketch we did in class.
- With more general values, when evaluating one subtree of a node it is less clear whether we need to evaluate the other one as well. Devise a strategy that allows to prune the search space efficiently that still requires at most $O(n^{0.793})$ leaf evaluations.

Hint: Reduce to the case with 0 or 1 values. For every node compute the value of one subtree, then check if the other subtree has better value and do a full evaluation only when it does.

2 Game Tree evaluation with noisy leaves

Consider a generalization of the binary Game Tree we saw in class. The tree still has n leaves but may not be binary as nodes may have an arbitrary number of children. Evaluating such a tree requires at most n evaluations of the leaves to figure out whether the first player wins or not. In this variant, checking the value of a leaf may not yield the same value every time it is queried. In fact, with probability $1/3$ the outcome of the leaf will be 0 and only with probability $2/3$ it will be the correct value. That is, if the true value is 0, the answer will always be 0 but if the true answer is 1, we will observe 1 with probability $2/3$.

- Show that $O(n \log n)$ evaluations suffice to compute the true value of the game tree with probability at least $1 - 1/n$.
- Show that $O(n)$ evaluations suffice to compute the true value of the game tree with probability at least 99%.
Hint: Consider querying a leaf repeatedly until the observed value is 1. The expected number of evaluations is 1.5 if the true value is 1, and ∞ if the true value is 0. Devise an evaluation strategy guaranteeing that for every subtree with k leaves the expected number of evaluations to see a 1 is $1.5k$ if the true value is 1 and ∞ if the true value is 0.
- [Optional] Suppose that with probability $1/3$ the reported value is not 0 but arbitrary. Show that $O(n)$ evaluations suffice to compute the true value of the game tree with probability at least 99%.

3 Perfect and Maximum Matchings in non-bipartite graphs

A matching in a general undirected graph is a pairing of the n vertices of the graph, such that every vertex appears in at most one pair and every pair of vertices share an edge. A maximum matching is a valid matching where the number of pairs is maximized while a perfect matching has exactly $n/2$ pairs. Define the Tutte matrix A of the graph with entries given by variables $x_{u,v}$ for $u < v$ as:

$$A_{u,v} = \begin{cases} x_{u,v} & \text{if } (u,v) \in E \text{ and } u < v \\ -x_{v,u} & \text{if } (u,v) \in E \text{ and } u > v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

i.e. for any i, j , $A_{i,j} = -A_{j,i}$.

- a. [Optional] Show that the determinant of A is not identically equal to the zero polynomial if and only if there is a perfect matching in the graph.
- b. Devise a randomized algorithm for testing if a graph has a perfect matching. Analyze its running time and success probability.
- c. Show that the algorithm can be extended to compute the perfect matching if one exists.
- d. Show how to extend the algorithm to compute a maximum matching.
Hint: Consider first the problem of checking whether there is a matching of size at least k .

4 Reachability in Temporal Graphs

Consider an empty graph G with n nodes but no edges. At every time step $t = 1 \dots T$, an (undirected) edge appears between two nodes u_t and v_t but is only available for that time step. Your goal is to compute for any pair of nodes u, v whether it is possible to go from u to v . For example, consider the case with 3 nodes and edges $(1, 2)$ and $(2, 3)$ appearing at time steps 1 and 2, respectively. It is possible to go from node 1 to 3 by visiting node 2 at time step 1 and node 3 at time step 2 but it is not possible to go from node 3 to 1.

- a. Let A be a matrix, where $A_{u,v}$ denotes whether u is reachable from v . Initially, $A_{uv} = 1$ if $u = v$ and 0 otherwise. How does the matrix change when an (undirected) edge (u, v) appears?
- b. For any u , let $p_u(x; a, b) = \sum_{v=a}^b A_{u,v} x^v$ be a polynomial of degree at most b . For a fixed x , design a data structure that allows querying $p_u(x; a, b)$ in time $O(\log n)$ and allows updates in time $O(k \log n)$ when k entries of A change.
Hint: You may use a prefix sum data-structure like Binary trees or Fenwick trees
- c. Show that using the above data structure, it is possible to find all k entries in A that become 1 when a new edge (u, v) appears with high probability in time $O(k \log^2 n)$.
Hint: Use polynomial identity testing and binary search. If at least one entry changed it must be that $p_u(x; 1, n) \neq p_v(x; 1, n)$ with high probability over a random x .
- d. Conclude with an algorithm that achieves runtime $O(T \log n + n^2 \log^2 n)$.

You may assume that all polynomial computations are done modulo a large enough prime P .